



# GROUND COVER

NEWS AND SOLUTIONS FROM THE GROUND UP

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## Race, criminal justice and football brawl discussed at Science Café



by Susan Beckett  
Publisher

As the Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti community book club reads and explores *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*, it appears that Washtenaw County prosecutors are employing some of the tactics responsible for the mass incarceration of black men in America, and the targets – three residents of Ann Arbor – are high school football players.

The charges, which pertain to the brawl that broke out at the end of the Huron-Pioneer football game and resulted in the serious injury of at least one person, were brought against three individual's

and were matters of prosecutorial discretion. All three of the students charged are black. The two juveniles were accused of kicking a fallen Huron player in the face, seriously hurting him. One of the juveniles was not even among those disciplined by his school for the incident.

Steve Hiller, the Assistant Chief County Prosecutor, commented on the decision of whom to charge. “We examined all the evidence carefully, which included not only the video but a pretty extensive investigation by the Ann Arbor police dept. We concentrated on the more serious actions; one that resulted in serious injury, and the other which involved the use of a weapon... There was a lot of pushing and shoving going on, but the actions were more egregious in the ones that were charged.”

As not all the cases are yet resolved, there were limits on how much Mr. Hiller could comment. He did, however, explain the decision to charge the juveniles with Felonious Assault. “Some objects are dangerous *per se*, but it can also be any object that is used in such a way that makes it a dangerous weapon. There is case law in Michigan that supports shoes and boots being regarded as dangerous weapons when they are used for kicking. In this case, the cleats were cited as the dangerous weapons.”

The juveniles were brought up on severe charges, a tactic frequently employed by prosecutors to coerce a guilty plea to lesser charges. This is especially effective when the accused lack the resources to mount a defense.

The initial arrest warrant requests for the two students being tried as juvenile offenders were for one count of aggravated assault and battery. The four charges and penalties actually brought forward were:

- One count of Felony-Assault with Intent to Do Great Bodily Harm Less than Murder (<10yrs/\$5K);
- One count Felony-Assault with a Dangerous Weapon (Felonious Assault )(<4yrs/\$2K);
- One count Misdemeanor-Aggravated Assault (<1yr/\$1K);
- One count Misdemeanor-Assault or Assault and Battery (Simple A &B) (<93 days/\$500)

One of the students elected for a bench trial and was quickly convicted of only the least serious charge – simple assault and battery. No plea bargain had been

offered for that.

Those of you following this semester's community discussion on Race: Are We So Different?, will recognize how these tactics have contributed to the mass incarceration of young, black men. Perhaps not as obvious is how they have made this demographic largely unemployable.

Discussion following March's Science Café presentation on Race and Criminal Justice: A Focus on Sentencing, centered around this local example. (Science Cafés are springing up around the country as an opportunity for audiences to

discuss scientific topics with experts in informal settings. The University of Michigan Natural History Museum sponsors six each year; the next will be on Race and Immigration, April 10 at Connor O'Neil's in Ann Arbor.) There were at least twelve high school students of various races disciplined by Huron and Pioneer High Schools for their part in the brawl, and three of them are being prosecuted, one as an adult. The severity of the charges and the fallout were of great concern, especially in light of the consequences of felony convictions that had just been discussed.

Convicted felons are ineligible for federal funds, which excludes them, among other things, from grants and loans for education, federal housing, and employment in the military or other federal jobs. Employers are

allowed to ask prospective employees whether they have been charged or convicted of a felony, and to choose not to hire someone because of their criminal history – though this practice is prohibited in some states. About 70 percent of felons are still unemployed three months after their release from prison, according to University of Michigan Researcher and Sociology professor David Harding.

“There is no forgiveness in our prison system. We punish them for the rest of their lives,” commented Linda Marks during the open discussion at the Science Café.

This assertion was backed up by another attendee, Mary King, director of the Washtenaw Michigan Prisoner Reentry Initiative. She said, “A felony sentence is a life sentence.”

Jelani Jefferson, University of Toledo law professor, during her presentation urged citizens to demand from politicians the articulation of the point of sentencing laws. She suggested that the bias in our laws reveals a lack of examination into why we imprison people and what we intend to accomplish from imprisonment. That bias can be seen in the imprisoning of 18- and 19-year-old males, among whom black males are imprisoned at more than nine times the rate of white males.

In response to the audience's call for change, Sheriff Jerry Clayton replied, “Define – *What do we want from our criminal justice system? What are you going to do about it? Who are you going to challenge? And what are you willing to sacrifice to make that change?*”

## Share the wealth for a better future

Dear Editor,

Today, many people are uncertain about their roles in our future society. While the time of great economic uncertainty itself will inevitably pass, the future sharing of society's bounty still remains to be determined.

Paul Lambert

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## Catching the Signs



by Rev. Dr. Martha Brunell  
Pastor, Bethlehem United Church of Christ

As I write this column, we are just a few days short of the spring equinox, the start line for spring in the Northern hemisphere. The signs are all around us. Brave bulbs are pushing their way through patches of snow. More wildlife is awakening and appearing again. Fuzzy pussy willow buds herald the next season. Days are noticeably longer. Sap is rising in the sugar maples. It is a time to stretch and release into new days coming. Such signs as these make visible and promise a fuller reality to be.

Back in the mid 80s when my two daughters were both very young, we lived and I was serving a church in southeastern Massachusetts, about twenty miles south of Boston. It was a great place to be a child.

We were only 15 miles from the ocean. We could visit the site where Toll House cookies were first baked. An old carousel had just been lovingly restored and was back in use. Our home county, Plymouth County, had as many ponds as there are days in the year. Ice skating was abundant in the winter time. A local farm converted into a golf course had a great sledding hill. There was still a dairy farm where you could visit with the cows and enjoy ice cream on site. A number of children's authors and storytellers were in the area. We were not far from the last stop on the red line of the Metropolitan Boston Transit Authority (MBTA). We loved to ride into town or all the way to the other end of the red line in Cambridge, MA. One day we had a rich experience with the power of signs on the MBTA.

Amanda, my older daughter, was born with a deep longing to communicate with everyone she could. By the time she was four, she had learned a little bit of American Sign Language from PBS. Among the signs that she knew was the iconic one for “I love you.” It was late winter, and we were riding on the MBTA en route to Cambridge where we would listen to a favorite storyteller. Our seats were at the very back of a subway car that was rocking back and forth on the elevated line. In the front seats of the car, there were two women talking rapidly in sign language. Amanda looked over at me and caught my intent that she needed to stay in her seat. She sat up as straight as she could and held her hand high with the “I love you” sign. A few minutes later, one of the signing women saw her, smiled, and signed something back to Amanda. She didn't know what the return signs were but she was delighted. “Mommy, mommy, they talked to me.”

In that brief moment with Amanda decades ago, I saw a sign of desire for a richer and fuller community where we learn to find a common language, to share common longing, and to recognize our common ground. I see similar signs each time I write for and later pick up the new issue of Groundcover News. It is quite an exciting day each month in the Bethlehem parking lot when the papers arrive. The paper is an effort by a growing circle of people to become more visible to one another, to be sign and symbol of a different season together. How thrilling that is, like first shoots of green in March, the return of absent birdsong, or the warming of the earth. Through the weeks of green growth ahead, let's continue to grow the promise of Groundcover News, for all to see.



Bethlehem United Church of Christ  
423 S. Fourth Avenue, Ann Arbor, MI 48104  
(between William and Packard)  
www.bethlehem-ucc.org (734) 665-6149

Bethlehem Church is home for the Groundcover Office

**Sundays:**  
8:30 am and 10:00 am ~ Worship  
10:00 am ~ Church School

**Upcoming Events:**  
April 1 ~ Church office and building closed  
April 26 ~ Parking Lot Pretzel Sale  
Noon: \$5.00/6 pretzels or \$10.00/12 pretzels

an invitation to grow in spirit and serve with joy

## April Calendar of Events

**April 2/9/16/23/30 – Tuesday Résumé Clinics**, 9-11 a.m. Construct a résumé and receive professional advice and editing. Washtenaw County Michigan Works! Career Transition Center, Key Bank Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, 301 West Michigan Ave., Ypsilanti. More info: call (734) 544-6799; TDD (800) 649-3777.

**April 3 – Panel Discussion: “The Citizens United Decision and Legislative Response,”** 3 p.m. Congressman John Dingell speaks on his proposed legislation, “The Restore American Democracy Act,” and is joined by a panel of experts. U-M Ford School of Public Policy, Weill Hall Annenberg Auditorium (Room 1120), 735 S. State St., Ann Arbor. More info: [dingell.house.gov](http://dingell.house.gov).

**April 5 – “FoolMoon 2013”:** **FestiFools outdoor festival**, 8 p.m. - midnight. Free outdoor event featuring enormous, hand-made illuminated sculptures, shadow puppet performances, processions of handmade lanterns, and experimental films projected onto buildings. Food available. Lantern processions to Washington Street (at Main) begin at 7:30 from three locations: Farmers' Market at Kerrytown, UMMA, and Slauson Middle School. Washington St. west of Main, Ann Arbor. More info: [festifools.org](http://festifools.org), or call (734) 763-7550.

**April 5 – Community Conversation on Immigration**, 6-9 p.m. Sponsored by the Washtenaw Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights, this event provides the larger community for inter-group dialog with our immigrant community members who have been the targets of increased immigration enforcement. RSVP encouraged. Peace Neighborhood Center, 1111 North Maple Rd., Ann Arbor. More info: [www.lsa.umich.edu/themesemester/k12community/communityconversations](http://www.lsa.umich.edu/themesemester/k12community/communityconversations); RSVP by emailing [sablanks@umich.edu](mailto:sablanks@umich.edu), or call (313) 377-2857.

**April 7 – 7<sup>th</sup> Annual FestiFools Parade**, 4-5 p.m. Parade down Main Street featuring some 50 giant handmade street puppets, the U-M percussion ensemble Groove, and anyone wishing to join the procession with a costume, silly hat, musical instrument, or puppet to contribute. Main Street between William and Washington in Ann Arbor. More info: [festifools.org](http://festifools.org), or call (734) 763-7550.

**April 7 – Groundcover News Writer's Workshop**, 1:30-4:30 p.m. Journalist Vicki Elmer presents a workshop for writers that will emphasize how to do an interview, tell a story and work

through the revision process. Free for Groundcover writers, \$20 for adults and \$10 for students. Bethlehem United Church of Christ, 423 S. 4<sup>th</sup> Ave., Ann Arbor. To register or for more info: [contact@groundcovernews.com](mailto:contact@groundcovernews.com), or call (734) 972-0926.

**April 8 – Groundcover Volunteer Meeting**, 7-8:30 p.m. Join in the production and distribution of Groundcover News. Bethlehem United Church of Christ, Room F1 (elevator to B), 423 S. 4<sup>th</sup> Ave., Ann Arbor. More info: [contact@groundcovernews.com](mailto:contact@groundcovernews.com), or call (734) 972-0926.

**April 9 – Panel Discussion: “Race and Religion: Progress and Pitfalls on the Journey to Equality,”** 7-8 p.m. Local leaders from different religious, racial, and ethnic groups reflect on how their traditions have dealt with issues of race, racial justice, and racial healing. Ann Arbor District Library Downtown Branch Multipurpose Room, 343 South Fifth Ave., Ann Arbor. More info: [www.icpj.net](http://www.icpj.net), or call (734) 663-1870.

**April 10 – Lecture: “Public Mental Health Services and Supports: Due Process, Appeals, Grievances, Definition of Medical Necessity,”** 6-8 p.m. Longtime mental health advocate Stacy Coleman speaks and answers public questions on local services available to individuals and families seeking mental health care. Washtenaw County Western Sub-Center, 705 N. Zeeb Rd, Ann Arbor. More info: [www.namiwc.org](http://www.namiwc.org), or call (734) 994-6611.

**April 14 – Project Grow 2013 New Gardener Shindig**, 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Learn basic skills related to community gardening and organic gardening, get involved with a community garden in your area, and find out about volunteering opportunities with Project Grow. RSVP in advance. Center for Independent Living, 3941 Research Park Dr., Ann Arbor. More info: (734) 971-0277, [projectgrowgardens.org](http://projectgrowgardens.org).

**April 18 – Community Discussion: “The Race Card Project: Reading and Town Hall with NPR's Michele Norris,”** 4-6 p.m. National Public Radio journalist Michele Norris presents her Race Card Project, an effort to take the nation's pulse on they subject of race by gathering and sharing 6-word essays from the public. Join the conversation by submitting your own “race card,” visiting the week-long Race Card installation on the U-M Diag (4/15-19), and voicing your opinion at the town hall meeting. U-M Rackham Auditorium, 915 East Washington St., Ann Arbor. More info: [theracecardproject.com/on-location-2/university-of-michigan](http://theracecardproject.com/on-location-2/university-of-michigan).



## Gaining perspective through conversation with Groundcover vendor Robert

by Sarah Arshad  
Groundcover Contributor

One of the most difficult aspects of an aspiring physician's life is communicating with one's patients.

As someone who prides herself as being a “people person,” and who is now looking forward to a future career as a child psychiatrist, I never thought this would be a problem. But as medical school continued, I realized how indoctrinated I was becoming. “High blood pressure” became “hypertension”; a “runny nose” became “rhinorrhea,” and the “common cold” became an “upper respiratory infection,” or URI.

The medical school tries to combat this, in part, by encouraging us to keep in touch with patients via a component of the curriculum called the Family Centered Experience. Two medical students are put in touch with a patient with a chronic medical condition, and required and encouraged to observe their clinical encounters, focusing on the patient's perspective. As I later entered my clinical years of medical school (traditionally the first two years are heavily lecture-based on basic science, and the latter two are conducted in clinical settings), I discovered how important this perspective is.

I still find myself chagrined at times

## Tuberculosis hits Los Angeles' Skid Row

by Susan Beckett

There is a major outbreak of tuberculosis (TB) in the Los Angeles Skid Row homeless community.

Tuberculosis, a bacterial respiratory infection once known as consumption, has long preyed on those living in substandard conditions. Improved nutrition and housing in the United States, along with access to effective medicines, have mostly kept active cases at bay here since the 1950s, even though many individuals carry the latent form of the disease. There were 10,000 active cases reported in the United States in 2011. Between 2007 and 2011 the CDC reported 28 outbreaks of TB associated with homeless shelters.

The outbreak in Los Angeles is the largest nationwide in a decade. Public health officials have launched a new, coordinated attack to contain the TB outbreak in downtown Los Angeles' Skid Row, including a search for more than 4,500 people who may have been



when I accidentally use “medical jargon” or find myself forgetting what efforts it might take on the patient's part to get to multiple appointments and afford the various treatments. As such, I am very interested in keeping in touch with people outside of the medical setting, and asking them about their experience with health care.

I was lucky enough to meet with Robert S. a few weeks ago, a salesman for Groundcover, and discuss the issues of being a patient he considered important and noteworthy. He currently carries a diagnosis of paranoid schizophrenia, for which he gets regular mental health care from the Justice Project Outreach Team (JPOR) in Ann Arbor. He enthusiastically described their services, which include helping him

acquire his necessary medications and locate housing, and overall describes it as a very “professional organization.” One of his greatest concerns in terms of being a schizophrenic is that the rate of suicide is much higher among patients with mental health disorders; luckily, he has not had trouble accessing health care for his condition.

His family history also includes cancer (his mother died of a ventricular carcinoma), heart failure, and gout (his father had a triple bypass and a stroke). This background has inspired his mantra of “what we eat is who we are,” because “our temple is what we eat.” Essentially, Robert believes we have to “keep the temple pure” by eating a balanced diet. For example, he was very surprised to learn that certain foods, such as egg yolks, red meats, and shrimp are very high in cholesterol – he had not been aware of the nutritive content of many of these foods before he began investigating them due to a personal interest. He is very concerned about keeping his cholesterol under control in light of his father's history of heart disease.

To further discuss cholesterol, I asked him if he knew of the different kinds of cholesterol that exist. We talked about the difference between “triglycerides,” “LDL,” and “HDL.” Robert had not been aware that “HDL,” or high-density lipoproteins, are actually good for you, and can help prevent heart attacks,

so doctors love this number to be as high as possible. We also talked about how eating certain healthy fatty foods, such as those with omega fatty acids, can help increase this number, as can exercise.

On the other side of the spectrum, “LDL,” or low-density lipoproteins, are correlated with worsening heart disease, and this number more so than your “total cholesterol” can predict the chance of having a heart attack. So doctors want this number to be as low as possible, and will often encourage diet, exercise, and medications (generically called statins) to help keep this number low.

My conversation with Robert helped me reconnect with a patient on a simpler level; he helped me understand what patients may take away from a conversation in a clinic setting, and what aspects of medical education need further work. As a future physician, the most important decision that is made after a clinical encounter is not what I tell my patients they should do – I believe it is, in fact, the decision they eventually come up with. And if I want to be the best physician possible, I need to remember to always take a walk in their shoes and provide the best clinical advice from their perspective, keeping in mind their beliefs and their socioeconomic background alongside their medical condition.

drug-resistant strain. This has become a serious problem around the world, and some strains are now resistant to every drug known to treat TB.

A new drug was just approved for TB treatment this year, the first approved by the FDA in 50 years. Health activists are concerned that cutbacks due to

sequestration and budget trimming will halt overdue research into more effective medications and a vaccine. Cutbacks in housing supports portend further crowding in shelters, making the spread of TB among the most vulnerable to infection all the more likely.

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## Homeless helping the homeful

by Mary Ann Trainor  
Groundcover Contributor

Sharon, a long-time volunteer who has been giving 150 percent to the Ann Arbor Vineyard Homeless Ministry for the past five years has come up against some severe challenges. She was recently diagnosed with a serious autoimmune disease, adding another to health problems that include diabetes, asthma, and a heart condition.

She is a single (widowed at a very young age) mom with three sons, two still living at home. The latter two collect Social Security benefits because of a combination of emotional and physical disorders that preclude their working. She has been holding down three jobs, but because of her condition (and the terrible side-effects of her medications) she has had to take long-term disability leave from the Ann Arbor Public School System, where she has been a para-educator with special education kids for many years. She also had to quit her job at the Vineyard Childcare Center (working from three to six after her day at school), and now only gets a few hours of work during Sunday School at Vineyard Church. Her disability has not kicked in yet and her monthly medical co-pays are



Camp Take Notice and MISSION volunteers repaired the porch, replaced a floor and made repairs for a Vineyard Church volunteer.

astronomical. Vineyard Church and members of the Homeless Ministry team have collected money to help her until she gets her disability benefits.

The family lives in a trailer park in Ypsilanti, which has its share of issues due to lack of maintenance. In spite of all this, Sharon continues to serve the homeless ministry as much as her health allows and always does it with a smile.

Seth, who volunteers with the Vineyard Homeless Ministry and is a former

member of Camp Take Notice (CTN), brought up this situation at one of the regular Sunday evening CTN meetings. Brian, who volunteers with MISSION, the CTN umbrella organization, thought fixing up Sharon's trailer would make a good community service project for the CTN group, many of whom are still without a place to stay after CTN was disassembled last spring. Several of the guys, some with construction and general contracting backgrounds, jumped at the chance to help our friend get her trailer back into safe and comfortable shape.

A handful of them went over to Sharon's trailer, assessed the situation, came up with a plan and began to execute it. With a \$200 Lowe's gift card from her pastor, the team purchased all the items they needed and, during a week of hard work, accomplished the following: front porch steps (collapsed) were totally rebuilt with solid steps and handrail; a new toilet was installed to replace a cracked and leaking one; a broken bedroom window was replaced; a new kitchen faucet replaced the old leaky one; and best of all, a new subfloor was installed in the kitchen (which had a big hole in it from an old leak) with a covering of new vinyl tile, which she picked out from samples they brought. There were a number of other minor repairs.

Sharon is beside herself with the awesomeness of this generosity from a group of homeless or near-homeless people. The volunteer workers all said from the beginning that they were going to do it right, or they wouldn't do it at all, and they have every reason to be incredibly proud of themselves. This has been a wonderful partnership with benefits for all parties involved, and is a bit of turnabout as well, with the homeless helping the homeful.

## Low-income health insurance enrollment

by Susan Beckett

The Michigan Department of Human Services (DHS) has announced that its Adult Benefit Waiver Program (ABW) for very low-income adults will be open during the month of April. The Washtenaw Health Plan manages this program locally under its “Plan A.”

Citizens or legal residents of at least five years who have no or very low income (\$335 or less for a single person), less than \$3,000 in assets – excluding a car and home – and no other source of health insurance are eligible for the program.

“We are very excited for a period of open enrollment into this important medical program that has been closed for two-and-a-half years,” says Ellen Rabinowitz, Executive Director of the Washtenaw Health Plan. “We further hope the State moves forward with Medicaid expansion in 2014, which would include the Plan A enrollees.”

The Plan A/ABW program covers primary and specialty care, prescription drugs, limited mental health services and other medically necessary services. Highlights of the program include prescription co-pays of only \$1 and the ability to transfer to a different county.

The Plan A/ABW program will only

Expanding Access to All



be open for the month of April 2013. Applicants from anywhere in Michigan can apply online at [www.michigan.gov/mibridges](http://www.michigan.gov/mibridges), or at the Department of Human Services. Bring with you a photo ID or letter from a community agency saying where you live, proof of income from the last consecutive 30 days, your most recent checking and/or savings account statement, and documentation of any other assets besides one car and home.

Washtenaw County residents can also visit the Washtenaw Health Plan, 555 Towner, Ypsilanti, Monday through Friday, 8:30-5:00 p.m. during the month of April. Other agencies providing enrollment assistance this month include the Delonis Center, Packard Health, and Faith in Action. For more information, call Krista Nordberg at Washtenaw Health Plan: (734) 544-6778, or go to [www.washtenaw.org](http://www.washtenaw.org).



## Father Jim McDougall retiring from St. Francis

by Susan Beckett

After 16 years at the helm of St. Francis of Assisi Church in Ann Arbor, Father Jim McDougall will be stepping down in August. He will perform weekend masses at St. Andrew's Catholic Church in Saline, where he served for four years prior to his stint at St. Francis, but is looking forward to having time to pursue other interests, such as art and history, during the week.

His extraordinary leadership will be missed. He supervises the principal of the St. Francis elementary school and a parish staff of 13 in addition to overseeing an enormous prayer schedule and conducting many of those masses himself.

Ellen Ward, the staff member for Adult Faith Education, remembers when Father Jim took over for Father Charlie, bringing with him an abundance of energy and an entirely new leadership style. He came to St. Francis shortly before the Jubilee year and his enthusiasm sparked the parish to embrace the global effort to relieve the debts of developing countries, which they had been regarding as overwhelming.

When Father Jim announced his retirement, Ward said, "Talk about shutting up a room – we were all in shock. But after processing, we are glad he'll have time to enjoy retirement."

She went on to say that they always appreciated the clarity that Father Jim provides. "He recognizes that the work of the church belongs to the people, and that work goes on all week. He points his finger at parishioners and says, 'I want you to do this.' No one ever refuses the collar, and you end up doing things you never imagined." By putting them to work on projects together, he has built a community of people who have really gotten to know each other.

Ward also remembers Father James Conlin, who will replace Father Jim as head priest, from his time as the associate pastor at St. Francis in the early 2000s. She expects he, too, will bring with him a burst of energy. "I'm very excited, knowing that we are going to continue to grow."

Ward recalled Father Jim's early years at St. Francis. "One of the first things he did was put up an empty basket on the altar. 'That's to remember the poor,' he said. There is a boldness that Father Jim has in taking a chance."

The empty basket led to a new staff



Father Jim McDougall shepherded in great change to St. Francis of Assisi during the last 16 years.

position, Social Ministry Director, currently filled by Scott Wright. According to Wright, Father Jim has very high expectations of staff, volunteers and parishioners. "We worked hard, we learned something and we accomplished more than we ever dreamed possible. Father Jim says, 'I love you' by entrusting you with a mission," said Wright.

The staff and parishioners feel supported by Father Jim, too. With the recession on the horizon, Wright recalled Father Jim instructing him on assisting parishioners in need. As Wright recalls, Father Jim said, "I can't stand looking into the pews knowing that we are sitting on resources while parishioners need help. If they ask, help. Don't worry about running out of money. If we run out, we'll ask for more. God cares for us and we are his hands."

Father Jim has also stepped out on the skinny branches to lead in interfaith efforts, such as pledging that St. Francis would support a homeless family for a year to help reduce the backlog of families needing affordable housing.

Father Jim came to Ann Arbor at the request of the diocese when no one applied for the opening at St. Francis. Ann Arbor is known as one of the more difficult places to lead, with a

"My role is to oversee the gifts and the talents God has given us. I actually do very little of what gets done," said Father Jim in a recent interview for Groundcover. He went on to say that by our baptism, we all are called to be ministers to each other.

He calls forth that commitment on the first Sunday of each month, when Tony and Rissa arrive at the church to sell Groundcover. Father Jim welcomed Groundcover vendors, recognizing it would facilitate interactions that most people would not otherwise have, and enhance living the Catholic faith. He foresaw the importance of his leadership in making an introduction to his parishioners. At the conclusion of each service, Father Jim announces, "As you leave Mass, we invite you to buy a copy of Groundcover News for one dollar. The vendors are some of the home-challenged people in our area who are seeking to augment their income." The response has been steady and substantial.

It is but one of the many ways the congregation demonstrates its commitment to social responsibility. St. Francis is leading the effort of local Catholic churches in building another Habitat for Humanity house as they have done every other year since Hurricane Katrina, along with being regular hosts for the rotating shelter program and supporters of the Interfaith Hospitality Network and Community Kitchen. During Lent this year, each of their service

see FATHER JIM, page 11



### St. Francis of Assisi PARISH

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**Mass Schedule**  
**Saturday**  
 5:00 p.m.  
**Sunday**  
 7:00 a.m. 8:45 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 12:15 p.m. 5:00 p.m.

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**St Francis of Assisi Parish**  
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 (734) 769-2550  
[www.stfrancis2.com](http://www.stfrancis2.com)

## Team Happy Feet: walking and raising funds to fight breast cancer

by Kathleen Sparr  
Groundcover Contributor

Last year, Team Happy Feet continued our amazing journey. Our destination? Finding a cure for breast cancer. It's a 60-mile walk over the course of three days that raises funds for breast cancer research and community programs. Team Happy Feet started when I was approached by a friend, who had signed up for the 2007 "Susan G. Komen for the Cure" 60-Mile 3-Day event, to join her team and come up with the team name. I jumped at the chance to do something and help make a difference. Fundraising, however, proved to be our biggest challenge.

The prospect of walking 60 miles in three days was easy compared to fundraising to reach a goal, then \$2,200 each. As it turned out, only three individuals were able to raise the money and therefore qualify to walk, and they became the core three of Team Happy Feet. After participating in opening and closing ceremonies and meeting all of the people along our journey, the core three committed to continue and decided to go to other states to walk each year. 2013 will be now the seventh year Team Happy Feet is walking. To date, the team has walked 360 miles for a cure and won't stop until one is found. This year the team is headed to the

Twin Cities (Minneapolis, Minnesota) on August 23-25 to add another 60 miles to our current 360. We will be joining thousands of men and women committed to this battle against a despicable enemy – breast cancer. Every 74 seconds, somewhere in the world, someone dies from breast cancer – a sobering statistic and one that I believe we can reduce. I am sure each and every one of you knows someone whose life has been affected by cancer. The best way we can make a difference is to raise awareness and to provide the monetary support necessary for research, education and treatment.

While walking in Chicago in 2008, we met and walked with a perfect stranger, a 32 year-old women named Jeanette who had a double mastectomy only the year before and had completed chemo only months before. She kicked our butts on that walk, and joined our team for 2009. She was soon adopted onto our team and was a huge source of inspiration to us. Jeanette walked



Top: Michael Crawford, Chris Lehnert, Jared Sparr, Todd Baker (not officially a team mate, but he and his wife walked the entire 60 miles with Team Happy Feet), and Craig Kinnunen; front row left to right: Kathleen Sparr, Kelly Baker (Todd's wife), and Dorothy Schulist.

Above: Jeanette, with sneakers over her shoulder, walking in the Boston 60-Mile 3-Day, has since lost her battle with breast cancer.

with us in Philly and Boston. She had a breast cancer tattoo that consisted of a pink ribbon and the Chinese symbols for Life, Strength and Courage, which was incorporated into our company logo. Unfortunately, we had to say good-bye to our friend and teammate on June 22, 2011.

It's women like Jeanette who inspire us to keep going even when it seems our feet and legs won't carry us any further. There is no way a few blisters or aching feet and legs will stop us when those who have suffered or are suffering through chemo are not quitting. Her husband has since joined the team and promised her he would walk in her place until a cure was found. He was given the honor of carrying the Honorary Wife flag in Opening and Closing ceremonies at the D.C. 2012 3-Day walk.

Jeanette's life, strength and courage convinced the core three to do something more than walk, so we started a non-profit, also named Team Happy Feet, to raise money to support

Susan G. Komen for the Cure, and eventually, raise enough money to assist individuals with the financial burden of battling breast cancer. We understand the financial strain that Jeanette and her family faced through her treatments, her inability to work, and her husband's lost time to care for her, and so we decided to help others in similar situations.

Team Happy Feet will continue to walk until a cure is found and there is a world without breast cancer. This year's Michigan 3-Day walk will be August 16-18. Please visit [www.the3day.org](http://www.the3day.org), or call (800) 996-3DAY for more information.

To follow Team Happy Feet, visit their Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/TeamHappyFeet](http://www.facebook.com/TeamHappyFeet). If you like the logo, you may support the team by purchasing Team Happy Feet Gear, with or without the Team Happy Feet name, at [www.cafepress.com/teamhappyfeetonline](http://www.cafepress.com/teamhappyfeetonline). To make donations, please visit their website at [www.teamhappyfeetonline.com](http://www.teamhappyfeetonline.com).



**Sudoku** ★★★★★ 4puz.com

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## Cryptoquote

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Solutions on page 11

## Groundcover Vendor Code

While Groundcover News is a nonprofit organization and newspaper vendors are considered contracted self-employers, we still have expectations of how vendors should conduct themselves while selling and representing the paper.

The following list is our Vendor Code of Conduct, which every vendor reads and signs before receiving a badge and papers. We request that if you discover a vendor violating any tenets of the Code, please contact us and provide as many details as possible. Our paper and our vendors should be positively impacting our County.

**All vendors must agree to the following code of conduct:**

- Groundcover News will be distributed for a voluntary donation of \$1. I agree not to ask for more than a dollar or solicit donations by any other means.
- I will only sell current issues of Groundcover News.
- I agree not to sell additional goods or products when selling the paper or to panhandle, including panhandling with only one paper.
- I will wear and display my badge when selling papers.
- I will only purchase the paper from Groundcover News Staff and will not sell to or buy papers from other Groundcov-

er News vendors, especially vendors who have been suspended or terminated.

- I agree to treat all customers, staff and other vendors respectfully. I will not "hard sell," threaten, harass or pressure customers, staff, or other vendors verbally or physically.
- I will not sell Groundcover News under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- I understand that I am not a legal employee of Groundcover News but a contracted worker responsible for my own well-being and income.
- I understand that my badge is property of Groundcover News and will not deface it. I will present my badge when purchasing the papers.
- I agree to stay off private property when selling Groundcover News.
- I understand to refrain from selling on public buses, federal property or stores unless there is permission from the owner.
- I agree to stay at least one block away from another vendor. I will also abide by the Vendor corner policy.

**If you see any Groundcover News vendors not abiding by the code of conduct, please report the activity to:**  
**contact@groundcovernews.com**  
**734-972-0926**

## Use plastic to buy Groundcover from enterprising vendors



by Aimee Ciccarelli  
Groundcover Vendor

My Groundcover customer base has now expanded to include people who do not carry cash! I want the public to know that, for their convenience, some Groundcover vendors are now carrying credit/debit card swipers.

I found that a lot of people don't carry cash, so I decided to see about getting a card swiper. My daughter-in-law Sarah helped me to find the Square Register online. We ordered it and it came in about 7-10 days, completely

free of charge. I went to the Chase Bank downtown and set up a debit account. After doing this and updating the information to coincide with the Square, I was able to synchronize it with my phone. The only problem was that my phone was old and didn't have enough memory space to make it work. So, for Christmas my mom got me a new smart phone.

The Square is now working, and I am happy to say that I have gotten good feedback from customers. They are surprised when I say I have the Square and I show it to them.

It is a safe process and the exchange is done directly into a bank account. You run the card through the swiper, then it authorizes the card, and a screen comes

up for the customer to sign. The whole process takes about a minute. I think this is a great way to get a donation. Square takes 2.75 cents from each of my transactions and the rest goes into my debit account. The customer can also get a receipt sent by e-mail which they can keep for tax purposes.

I showed my new Square to other Groundcover vendors at our weekly meeting. Then I took Miriam Lindsay, another vendor, to the Library and worked with her to help get her Square ordered. She is very excited to get the process started. I believe that this is the wave of the future, and I am willing to help other people get started as well. I also believe that as more and more vendors carry the Square, people will get used to the idea and be more likely

to use their credit cards.

It also lends to the credibility of the newspaper. We are licensed vendors with a product to sell. This is how we survive and end our homelessness. And in a society where people don't carry cash it only makes sense to have a swiper. I mean, if you pay for a cup of coffee with a credit or debit card, then why not pay for a newspaper with one?

Please encourage the initiative and the determination on the part of the vendors to expand their businesses, and support us in our new endeavor to make Groundcover more available to you. We thank you for your support. God bless and stay strong.

## Deviance, imprisonment and redemption in self-published chronicle



Review by La Shawn  
Courtwright  
Groundcover Vendor

**PRISON TO PUBLISHED**  
*by Tim Traviolia*  
*c. 2012 by Tim Traviolia*

This book has its own intrigue, spotlight, and point of view. Tim Traviolia is very courageous in the way he has exonerated himself, telling his own story. His upbringing was abusive and he thought that this was the norm. Having endured the severe isolation of the oppressive reforms of the penitentiary, Traviolia's intention is to motivate change in the way that societies identify, understand and deal with abnormal and dysfunctional behaviors, so that perhaps they can build things other than more prisons for future generations.

This story tears down the walls of shame and should point all who read this book towards more preventive efforts for dysfunctional families. In this way, we are dealing with these challenges before they get to the point where imprisonment is the only option for these individuals. I believe that people build their decision-making around the information available to them. Making positive uses of our resources and leadership is ideal in promoting productive citizens through the use of preventative measures and programs.

Everyone has embarrassing things they are not willing to share about themselves. Traviolia pushes the shame aside and helps us see how similar our lives really are. It took a lot of courage, in my opinion, for Traviolia to expose his past, and allowing himself to be this vulnerable is a personal revolution in itself. Traviolia, although

he'd rearranged very significant areas of his life, still practiced and indulged himself in some of his unseemly sexual behaviors, though very sparingly in comparison to his sexuality before transforming himself. Like him, we can find a program or routine that works for us, and stick to it, and eventually change will come. Some things may take longer than we'd like, but it is possible.

It took a lot of acceptance on the part of Tim Traviolia's long-time significant other, Carol, who had no knowledge of his sexual history at the start of their relationship. Carol stood by him for more than a decade while he straightened out his life and this permitted Traviolia to grow and to become a productive citizen. Carol was a key motivational force and

part of his life. She stood up to him and demanded that he begin to change himself by taking the necessary steps and seeking professional help, which he did.

Prison to Published is an extraordinary chronicle for blind eyes that have never seen, heard about, suspected, or lived any of these circumstances. Traviolia's account corroborates my own experience with the criminal justice system as it currently functions. There are many barriers, legally

see PRISON, page 11

## Stranger's kindness inspires Groundcover vendor



by Eddy Powell,  
Groundcover Vendor  
& David KE Dodge,  
Groundcover  
Contributor

Ten minutes ago today, March 14, 2013, I (Eddy) boarded an AATA bus on my way to a meeting that I sensed was important to me as a successful vendor of Groundcover News who often sells outside the Cloverleaf Restaurant in downtown Ann Arbor. I didn't have bus fare, because I mistakenly left my wallet in my apartment. When I boarded the bus, the bus driver seemed displeased that I didn't have my bus pass, but also seemed willing to let the matter slide. Then a man whom I had never seen before, but who was seated at the front

of the bus, across from me, said "I really love your hat. I heard you didn't have bus fare. I'm going to pay your fare." He went and put the full fare amount in the fare machine, and asked the driver for a transfer. He gave me the transfer.

This experience is not unique in my efforts to earn a sparse living in Washtenaw County. For the past five months – discouraging months for outdoor sales, when costs start to exceed my income – another man, again of unknown identity to me, has extended to me a cash tip when he buys a paper from me, of always 10 dollars or more. To the reader, 10 dollars may not seem like much, but to a Groundcover News vendor, such an amount can be used to satisfy immediate hunger, and gives great encouragement to go on

with efforts to earn a living.

There are people out here who do support the unfortunate, and to those, I give great "Thanks." The help afforded goes far beyond the value of (sometimes critical) needs met by the money extended; the help can leave the recipient inspired to positive action long-considered but long-delayed by a mood of desperation or depression – actions such as my writing this article.

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## The power of poetry

by **Karen L. Totten**,  
Groundcover Contributor

“For where there’s a man who has no voice, there I shall go singing.” – Jewel, “Hands”

In 1996, The Academy of American Poets declared that each April be designated Poetry Month. Every year since then events are sponsored throughout the country to bring poetry to the people in various forms – readings, movies, recordings, books and conversations about the ability of this written art form to connect us with our world, our feelings, our fellow humans, our spiritual lives.

Tree Swenson, Executive Director of the Academy states for Poets.org, “poetry can provide solace, give voice to despair, restore optimism or simply remind us of our common connection, through words.”

The writer Mary Oliver often creates poems that are celebrations of life of nature and its sacred properties, as in the poem “Moss” wherein she points out our connections to our “sweet cousins, fox, giraffe and warthog.” And these also:

*Bodies like tiny strings, bodies like blades and blossoms!*

*Cord grass, Christmas fern, soldier moss! And here comes grasshopper,*

*all toes and knees and eyes, near the little mountains of dust.*

*When I see the black cricket in the woodpile, in autumn,*

*I don't frighten her. And when I see the moss grazing*

*upon the rock, I touch her tenderly.*

Poetry can also be a catalyst for change. There have been social critics writing poetry since earliest times, documenting the conditions in which they must survive, writing about war or poverty or unjust laws. Around the world, from Palestine to the American Revolution to abolition to the Vietnam and Iraq wars, poetry has been a means of standing up against injustice and rallying groups for action.

Sometimes poetry is about being heard, of speaking of one’s pain. Take, for instance, the poetry of Peruvian Cesar Vallejo, who wrote so eloquently about the way poverty can crush a person’s spirit:

## Robert Frost or Homer? Readers name favorite poets or poems!

by **Karen L. Totten**

In honor of National Poetry Month, held every April, Groundcover News asked some local citizens to identify some of their best-loved poems or poets and give a brief explanation as to what was inspirational about them. Here are some of their responses.

**Christopher Moore**, *landscape engineer*. The Iliad – the epic poem of Homer. I love the mix of love, loss, war, hubris, tragedy and heroism. Also, I love the themes about the cost of greed and self-concern, and the impermanence of all things.

**Scott Wright**, *Director of Parish Social Ministry, St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church*. Poetry is great when it gets me to think about a different perspective and increases my sense of gratitude for life. Two local poets I like to read are Matthew Rohrer and Karen Totten, because their poems help me to appreciate the simple things in life. Mathew Rohrer writes, in “The Emperor,” *“She sends me a text, she’s coming home . . . I light the fire under the pot, . . . I fold a napkin under a little fork, the wind blows the rain into the windows, the emperor himself is not this happy.”*

**Emily Slomovits**, *musician*. One of the things I like about the Sufi poets

*The anger that breaks a man down into small boys,*

*that breaks the small boy down into equal birds,*

*and the birds then, into tiny eggs,*

*the anger of the poor*

*owns one smooth oil against two vinegars.*

These words articulate a quality of poverty, not in a way that further diminishes the poor, but in a manner that liberates that anger and gives it voice.

Poetry has also been a device by which to express the suffering caused by slavery and racism. Langston Hughes, known as the poet laureate of the Harlem Renaissance, is only one of many who spoke out about his experiences as a black American. In 1945, a good ten years before the start of the Civil Rights era, he published “I Too Sing America,” a poem envisioning a time when blacks and whites would sit down together at the table. In it he writes:

sweet delight. Some are born to endless night.” And “Daphne” by Edna St. Vincent Millay (1919). This poem has two meanings. It is a very short version of the Daphne and Apollo myth. It is also a description of the poet. She became famous in 1912, at 19. She was a voice of women in the Jazz age post WWI. St. Vincent Millay described her opinion of the men who were attracted to her: *“Why do you follow me? . . . I am off--to heel, Apollo!”*

### INNOCENT

BY DAVID KE DODGE

SO THE BARD BOARDS A BUS, MINDING HIS OWN BUSINESS, OR MAYBE, INSTEAD, HE STEPS ALONG A WALK INNOCENT OF ANY SHAMEFUL INTENTS, WHEN ALL AT ONCE, HIS MUSE ATTACKS, AND TO HIS PLACID MIND, THE INVADER FEEDS A LINE – A START TO TURMOIL – AND THE BARD FALLS PREOCCUPIED WITH TRIAL AND ERROR ATTEMPTS TO PURSUE A NEW THOUGHT, YET UNREALIZED, BY SPINNING OUT A SECOND LINE, WHICH DEMANDS NEXT A THIRD, AND FROM THERE, WITHOUT RELIEF, THE WORDS TUMBLE OUT IN ORDERED CHAOS, UNTIL AT LAST, WITH THOUGHT EXPRESSED, THE BARD RETURNS TO HIS INTENT, FREED FROM PASSING TURMOIL, HIMSELF RELIEVED, AND MANKIND, ENRICHED WITHOUT CHARGE.

*I am the darker brother*

*They send me to eat in the kitchen when company comes.*

*. . . tomorrow. . . nobody'll dare say to me, eat in the kitchen.*

*Then they'll see how beautiful I am*

*and be ashamed.*

*I, too, am America.*

William Butler Yeats said “peace comes dropping slow,” and so often does change, but first the idea or concept of what could be different, and how, must come; only then it is followed by decision and action. Hughes introduced an idea radical for 1940 – that blacks and whites should be brothers – and offered his vision of a more just nation. As Tree Swenson said in 2012, “the complex world [we live in] is one that humans invented, and it is a world that is incomprehensible to many people – yet it too was first made in the imagination. The response to the current [financial] distress will also be forged in our collective imagination.”

**Shelly Williams**, *member, local writing group*. I love to read books and articles written by poets, like Dalia Sofer’s *The Septembers of Shiraz*. There are places where her poetry comes out, like in the interplay of how people think differently about things. It’s lyrical, it’s layered. Poets seem to have more intricate expressions of the aspects of life.



## Prison to Published book review

**continued from page 9**

and otherwise, for the poor. They plead guilty to crimes they have not committed, in response to offers from the prosecutors called Cobbs Agreements. In some cases, it is for a higher misdemeanor or felony than the original charge. Most of our poor accept these agreements so that they will not lose their jobs, families, and housing.

The court process is very slow, so if you cannot make bail or bond, you may remain in jail anywhere from three months to a year if you take it to trial. Children are also injured by the law when parents are ensnared by the criminal justice system. Agreeing to these plea bargains establishes a criminal history which may limits future employability. Most public defenders never meet with their clients until five or ten minutes before the

preliminary examinations, and never hear their clients’ side of the story. In my experience, the first thing that most public defenders say is, “This is what the prosecutors are offering, what do you want to do?”

There is a lot of administrative dysfunction in the handling of paperwork. Bail and bond receipts are lost, or the amount is often wrong. Outstanding warrants are not properly tracked and resolved. Paperwork is misplaced or lost. The jail phones block collect calls after the number is called twice, which isolates prisoners without the money to purchase a phone card. You may wait two or more months to talk to a social worker or mental health counselor. You can be ill and not see a doctor unless you are near death. I’ve witnessed inmates having seizures and the nurse took more than 15 minutes to respond. You can die in jail if you have health issues.

## Youthful travel sparked Father Jim’s passion for social justice and art

**continued from page 6**

brochures will contain a parishioner message on how St. Francis is building a more sustainable world – from parish choices like using compostable plates during social hours, to contractor presentations on how to make homes more energy-efficient. The business group gatherings address how to live the Catholic faith while making economic decisions.

There are many other ministries and all operate autonomously, in coordination with a staff person. These ministries are rooted in a six-year pastoral plan undertaken five years ago that translates parishioner passions into area projects. Allowing the groups to operate independently, as long as they stay within the bounds of the plan, fosters progress. This sharing of power and responsibility is a hallmark of Father Jim’s successful leadership style. Ward noted that Father Jim’s structure for contained growth allows work to proceed smoothly with fewer conflicts.

With so much activity, “I need to read the bulletin to find out what’s going on,” claimed Father Jim.

Father Jim credits Pope Benedict’s writings with leading the Catholic people to live their faith day-by-day, building a world and a world economy that brings justice to all people. The writings also call for worldwide regulation of corporations in recognition that all people have a right to a just living – a living that is now being subverted by profit-dominated, bottom-line-oriented interests.

According to Father Jim, these opinions have precedence in the work of Pope Leo XIII (1810-1903), who asserted that unions have a right to exist as they are the only viable mechanism for resisting powerful corporate forces.

Father Jim’s journey to the clergy began his last few years of high school in Flint, which was, in the 1960s, a vibrant city with a flourishing public

Not all crime stems from poor people. In a lot of our media, courtrooms, and newspapers, the poor are treated criminally as they are criminalized by these institutions. You are supposed to be innocent until proven guilty, but they are often treated oppositely. In my eyes, when those from higher economic classes commit the same crimes, they are sensationalized or pushed under the rug, so-to-speak, because of their influence and their ability to pay for an attorney.

The poor also do not receive equal protection from the law. I made a police report after having my computer stolen by someone I know, but they would not prosecute this individual. Yet, I’ve been told by officers that I have a warrant for my arrest, even though I never got a citation of any kind pertaining to these charges and was told last fall that all outstanding warrants had been taken

school system that ran like a parish community council. He was the “gofer” for the school community director, and credits this job with teaching him active listening and community organizing skills. He planned to be a teacher and perhaps a community director one day, but he felt perhaps God was calling him to the priesthood.

He thought and prayed about it privately for several years. When he was accepted to the University of Michigan, he surprised his family by announcing that he would instead be attending Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit. It was the first they knew of his interest in the priesthood. He spent his college summers working in the Buick plants like his father.

He continued his studies at Gregorian University in Rome, where he augmented his history degree with education about art. This expertise proved useful years later when he commissioned two original pieces of

care of. I hope for drastic changes in the system. In the meantime, I will continue writing my first novelette and begin the publishing process in June of this year. I will also continue writing in the hope that I can inspire others through it, as Traviolia does.

Traviolia peels back the masks and describes real human experiences, even ones that most would never admit! He reformed his attitude towards his circumstances. He gave his life energies to more productive and meaningful activities. I hope that others can embrace these concepts, and consider the wisdom in Tim Traviolia’s journey.

You can purchase Prison to Published directly from the publisher online at [www.friesenpress.com/bookstore](http://www.friesenpress.com/bookstore), or contact your locally-owned bookstore to order a copy.

artwork for St. Francis.

He traveled to India for one year and worked in the slums with some of Mother Theresa’s sisters.

“I’ll never forget, in Calcutta, there were people everywhere on the roads. I could have been swallowed up and disappeared forever. People with money strive to avoid this situation and hold onto their money.”

When Father Jim soon wades into secular life in Ann Arbor, St. Francis parishioners will notice his absence from the parish.

“He has faithfully and generously given himself to the people of our St. Francis Parish community with a focus on developing our members’ participation in caring for each other, especially those most in need. From practical details to the theological insights, working with Fr. Jim is a great educational experience,” said Wright.

## Cryptoquote Solution

America’s vast inequality didn’t just happen... It’s been politically engineered.

– Bill Moyers



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Heavenly Hash Recipe



by Lisa Sonnenburg  
Groundcover Contributor

*Ingredients:* 3 or 4 strips bacon, 1 pound lean ground beef, 1 onion and 2 stalks celery (chopped), 1/2 cup grated cheese, 1 can cream of mushroom soup, 1 can tomato soup, 1 cup macaroni noodles (cooked).

*Preparation:* Cook the bacon in a deep skillet or wide-bottomed pan. Remove and crumble, then return to skillet. Add the ground beef and brown well. Add the celery and onion and cook until soft. Cover and continue to cook on lowest possible heat for 30 minutes. Add tomato and cream of mushroom soup and mix well. Add the macaroni and mix well. Pour into baking dish, cover with cheese and bake at 325°F for 45 minutes.

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**Strange (but Mostly True) Stories About a Mother and her Daughter - Cy Klone © 2013**

I'm thinking about getting a medical alert card.

Really? For what?

My nerves are shot. I've lived in 8 different households, lived outdoors 8 other times, raised 19 kittens, including 18 at once, and sometimes I just need to get silly.

You think you don't get silly enough? I haven't noticed that at all.

It's all part of my brave saga. No offense, but you have no idea how stressful it is to live with you 24/7.

What?!! You're blaming me now? My name better not turn up on any applications!

April Fool! As long as you're around I have all the silliness I need. And even though you're my baby and I worry about you, you usually don't cause me too much stress.

Thanks ... I think.

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Business card	\$49.95	\$65.95	2 X 3.5
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1/2	\$299.95	\$399.95	5 X 14 or 6.5 X 10
Full Page	\$495.95	\$669.95	10 X 14

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